IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-8 without prejudice or disclaimer, AMEND claims 9-21 and 34-35, and ADD new claims 36-39 in accordance with the following:

1. (cancelled)

2. (cancelled)

3. (cancelled)

4. (cancelled)

5. (cancelled)

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) ~~An information recording medium~~A credit card, comprising:

a light reflective substrate with a light reflective surface; and

a latent image formation layer, the latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the light reflective surface,

wherein said latent image formation layer comprises at least one oriented portion in which chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the latent image formation layer, and at least one non-oriented portion in which an orientation degree of the chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material is lower than an orientation degree of the chains in the oriented portion,

wherein said at least one oriented portion and said at least one non-oriented portion constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct visual observation of the

~~medium~~credit card, and

wherein said ~~information recording medium~~ credit card is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the latent image formation layer.

10. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 9, wherein said liquid crystalline polymer material is a thermotropic liquid crystalline polymer material.

11. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 9, wherein said light reflective substrate comprises a laminated structure of an information-recorded substrate and an optical layer facing the latent image formation layer and having a light reflectivity.

12. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 11, wherein said optical layer is a specular reflection layer.

13. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 12, further comprising an OVD layer either on the latent image formation layer or between the specular reflection layer and the latent image formation layer.

14. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 11, wherein said optical layer is an OVD layer.

15. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 9, further comprising a protection layer, which has a light transmissivity and protects the latent image formation layer, on the latent image formation layer.

16. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 15, wherein said protection layer has a light scattering property.

17. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 11, wherein said light reflective substrate further comprises a base layer between the information-recorded substrate and the optical layer.

18. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 17, wherein said base layer is an adhesive layer.

19. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 17, further comprising a sticky layer between said information-recorded substrate and said base layer.

20. (currently amended) The ~~medium~~ credit card according to claim 9, wherein said polarizing member is a circularly polarizing member.

21. (currently amended) A member ~~of~~ imparting a forgery-preventing characteristic, comprising:

a base layer;

an optical layer provided on one of major surfaces of the base layer and having a light reflectivity; and

a latent image formation layer, the latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the optical layer,

wherein said latent image formation layer comprises at least one oriented portion in which chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the latent image formation layer, and at least one non-oriented portion in which an orientation degree of the chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material is lower than an orientation degree of the chains in the oriented portion,

wherein said at least one oriented portion and said at least one non-oriented portion constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct visual observation of the member ~~of~~ imparting the forgery-preventing characteristic, and

wherein said member ~~of~~ imparting a forgery-preventing characteristic is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the latent image formation layer.

22. (original) The member according to claim 21, wherein said liquid crystalline polymer material is a thermotropic liquid crystalline polymer material.

23. (original) The member according to claim 21, wherein said optical layer is a specular reflection layer.

24. (original) The member according to claim 23, further comprising an OVD layer either on the latent image formation layer or between the specular reflection layer and the latent image formation layer.

25. (original) The member according to claim 21, wherein said optical layer is an OVD

layer.

26. (previously presented) The member according to claim 21, further comprising a protection layer, which has a light transmissivity and protects the latent image formation layer, on the latent image formation layer.

27. (cancelled)

28. (previously presented) The member according to claim 26, wherein said protection layer has a light scattering property.

29. (previously presented) The member according to claim 21, wherein said base layer is an adhesive layer.

30. (previously presented) The member according to claim 21, further comprising a sticky layer on said base layer.

31 (previously presented) The member according to claim 21, further comprising a release layer releasably provided on the base layer.

32. (previously presented) The member according to claim 21, wherein said polarizing member is a circularly polarizing member.

33. (cancelled)

34. (currently amended) ~~An information recording medium~~A credit card, comprising:

a light reflective substrate with a light reflective surface; and

a patterned latent image formation layer, the patterned latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the light reflective surface,

wherein chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the patterned latent image formation layer,

wherein said patterned latent image formation layer and an opening portion of the patterned latent image formation layer constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct visual observation of the ~~medium~~credit card, and

wherein said ~~information recording medium~~credit card is configured to visualize the latent

image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the patterned latent image formation layer.

35. (currently amended) A member imparting a forgery-preventing characteristic, comprising:

a base layer;

an optical layer provided on one of major surfaces of the base layer and having a light reflectivity; and

a patterned latent image formation layer, the latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the optical layer,

wherein chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the patterned latent image formation layer,

wherein said patterned latent image formation layer and an opening portion of the patterned latent image formation layer constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct visual observation of the member ~~of the~~ imparting the forgery-preventing characteristic, and

wherein the member ~~of~~ imparting a forgery-preventing characteristic is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the patterned latent image formation layer.

36. (new) A security, comprising:

a light reflective substrate with a light reflective surface; and

a latent image formation layer, the latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the light reflective surface,

wherein said latent image formation layer comprises at least one oriented portion in which chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the latent image formation layer, and at least one non-oriented portion in which an orientation degree of the chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material is lower than that in the oriented portion, wherein said at least one oriented portion and said at least one non-oriented portion constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct visual observation of the security, and

wherein said security is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the latent image formation layer.

37. (new) A security, comprising:

a light reflective substrate with a light reflective surface; and

a patterned latent image formation layer, the patterned latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the light reflective surface,

wherein chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the patterned latent image formation layer,

wherein said patterned latent image formation layer and an opening portion of the patterned latent image formation layer constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct visual observation of the security, and

wherein said security is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the patterned latent image formation layer.

38. (new) A certificate, comprising:

a light reflective substrate with a light reflective surface, and

a latent image formation layer, the latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the light reflective surface,

wherein said latent image formation layer comprises at least one oriented portion in which chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the latent image formation layer, and at least one non-oriented portion in which an orientation degree of the chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material is lower than that in the oriented portion,

wherein said at least one oriented portion and said at least one non-oriented portion constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a direct virtual observation of the certificate, and

wherein said certificate is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the latent image formation layer.

39. (new) A certificate, comprising:

a light reflective substrate with a light reflective surface; and

a patterned latent image formation layer, the patterned latent image formation layer containing a liquid crystalline polymer material and provided on the light reflective surface,

wherein chains of the liquid crystalline polymer material are orientationally arranged in a single direction substantially parallel to a major surface of the patterned latent image formation layer,

wherein said patterned latent image formation layer and an opening portion of the patterned latent image formation layer constitute a latent image which is unrecognizable by a

direct visual observation of the certificate, and

wherein said certificate is configured to visualize the latent image by arranging a polarizing member at an observer side close to the patterned latent image formation layer.